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Serial No.: 10/532,801

Examiner: Stephone B. Allen

Title: OPTICAL UNIT, OPTICAL SENSOR, MULTICHANNEL PHOTODETECTOR AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING OPTICAL UNIT

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REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 7 and 9 has been editorially revised to include the limitations of claim 8. The revision is supported by the original disclosure. New claims 10-18 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found at page 7, line 28 to page 8, line 8, among other places. No new matter has been introduced. Claims 1-6 and 8 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 7 and 9-15 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC § 112

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claim 8 has been canceled. Claim 7 has been revised to include the limitations of claim 8, which have been reviewed and revised editorially in light of the constructive criticisms noted in the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 2-5, 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Katsunori (JP 7-143284). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 1 and 2-5 have been canceled and claim 7 has been editorially revised to include the limitations of claim 8, rendering the rejection moot. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection as applied to the rejected claims. Claim 9 depends from claim 7 and is patentable along with claim 7 and need not be separately distinguished at this time. Applicants are not conceding the relevance of the reference to the remaining features of the rejected claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katsunori. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 2 has been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection.

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Claim 6 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiroyuki et al. (JP 63-144661) in view of Katsunori. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 6 has been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Douglas P. Mueller, Reg. No. 30,300, at (612) 455-3804,

52835
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dated: October 5, 2006

DPM/cy

Respectfully submitted,

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